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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENTLY ARRANGING PORTABLE EXECUTABLE (PE) IMAGES

(57) Abstract: When a processing system boots, an image loader may determine whether a portable executable (PE) image for a platform firmware runtime service includes a discardable section. The image loader may load part of the PE image into runtime memory to be used by the platform firmware. In response to determining that the PE image includes a discardable section, the image loader may omit at least part of the discardable section when loading the PE image into the runtime memory. Instead, the image loader may load the discardable section into boot-time memory. In another embodiment, the image loader may pre-allocate an area of runtime memory for PE images, and may load sections from multiple PE images into the pre-allocated area. Also, the image loader may use an alignment granularity that is smaller than the page size when loading the PE images into the pre-allocated area. Other embodiments are described and claimed.

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